

Background

The SNC's enabling legislation requires us to report annually to the Legislature and to the Secretary of the Natural Resources Agency regarding "expenditures, land management costs, and administrative costs." Whereas the SNC had been reporting this information to the Legislature and Secretary through the budget process during its first few years, we created our first annual report at the close of the 2007-08 year to provide this and other information about the SNC's activities and accomplishments to all interested stakeholders.

Current Status

The SNC's draft [Annual Report for 2008-09](#) (Click [link](#) to view document) includes the statutorily required information and much more. Most of the report focuses on four specific issues that are not only important to the Sierra Nevada, but to the entire State of California: water; fire; habitat; and tourism and recreation. Within each of these issue areas, the report explains why the issue is important to the Region and the State and how the SNC is working to address the issue.

While the SNC's 2007-08 Annual Report focused primarily on the SNC's Proposition 84 Grant Program, the freeze on bond funds that went into effect in December 2008 limited the amount of work accomplished under our grant program in 2008-09. Despite this unexpected setback, a look back at 2008-09 shows that the SNC was able to accomplish a great deal through its other projects and activities.

As with our first annual report, the draft 2008-09 Annual Report is best viewed in an interactive, electronic format—either online or on compact disc. This format provides links to relevant background and other information as well as short video clips of project partners and others describing some of the work the SNC is doing to serve the Sierra Nevada Region and in so doing, to serve California.

Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Board provide suggested modifications and authorize the staff to produce and distribute a final SNC 2008-09 Annual Report.